

Media Advisory

Southwest Region (Arizona ● New Mexico ● Oklahoma ● Texas) <u>www.fws.gov/southwest/</u> October 17, 2016

Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery Partnership Celebration

What:

A ribbon-cutting event will recognize the significant collaborations that were needed to construct a water in-take system at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery (NFH) in Arizona. Open to the public.

Who:

Members of the Arizona Delegation; the Service (host); Arizona Game and Fish Department; Mohave County; National Park Service; Bureau of Reclamation; and the Colorado River Indian Fort Mojave and Quechan Tribes.

Why:

Rainbow trout production ceased at Willow Beach NFH in 2013, when a water supply system failed. Completely replacing the aged system was cost-prohibitive. With support from the Arizona congressional delegation, the Service partnered with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and others, to design and build a cost-effective system. Today, the new in-take delivers cold water to rainbow trout that school in the hatchery's shaded raceways. These trout will be welcomed by anglers when the fish are stocked in nearby waters in the coming months.

When:

9 a.m. to Noon on Thursday, October 20, 2016.

Where:

Willow Beach NFH, 25804 North Willow Beach Road, Willow Beach, Arizona. From Las Vegas, Nevada: Drive south on US 93, turn right on Willow Beach Rd. and continue 4.5 miles to the hatchery entrance. From Kingman, Arizona: Drive north on US 93, turn left on Willow Beach Rd. The site is 11 miles downriver of Hoover Dam on the Arizona side of the Colorado River.

Notes:

Photos and interviews available before and after 9 a.m. opening ceremony. It is recommended that all visitors wear clothing suitable for outdoor event as well as closed-toe shoes that are slip resistant as portions of the event require walking over uneven, rocky terrain.

Contact:

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